

A Man Isn't Fit For Fatherhood Until Past Forty

By C. L. Redfield, the Distinguished Civil Engineer.



SAVAGES marry savages in mere youth and other savages are born, while David was the eleventh son of his father, and David's son, Solomon, was born when the psalmist was fifty-two years old. Moses was born 155 years after the birth of his great-grandfather, while the modern Moses—Abraham Lincoln—was the product of a grandmother and grandfather each the baby of their respective families, and of a father and a mother each the youngest child in their families. Benjamin Franklin's ancestors in the male line on the Franklin side were the youngest children for five generations back, while the father of Audubon was fifty-one years old at his boy's birth and himself was the twenty-first child in his own family.

Looking for reckless, adventurous, dissipated, aggressive types of men, I have found extreme youth in their parentage almost without exception, while the great thinkers and philosophers of the world have been born of parents who have reached mental maturity.

No man should be allowed to marry before he is twenty-five years old, and no woman until she is twenty years at least. If no person in the United States were allowed to marry before the age of twenty-five years, two generations of such marriages would wipe out virtually all the poverty, crime and viciousness of the country.

When a parent, and especially a father, has passed fifty years old, he is at the maximum of his knowledge and experience. He is inclined to morality, philosophy and a greater tolerance of the world and its vagaries. He has time for thinking and for self-analysis. Shall one doubt for a moment that a man becomes a parent at such a time in life reflects his acquired nature in his child?

Savages and Brutes

By Prince Kropotkin of Russia.



FOR the primitive savage, animals are mysterious, problematic beings, possessed of a wide knowledge of the things of nature. They know much more than they are ready to tell us. In some way or another, by the aid of senses much more refined than ours, and by telling to each other all that they notice in their rambles and flights, they know everything for miles round. And if a man has been "just" toward them, they will warn him of a coming danger, as they warn each other; but they will take no heed of him if he is a leader of the straight forward in his actions. Snakes and birds (the owl is the snakes), mammals and insects, lizards and fishes—all understand each other, and continually communicate their observations to one another.

Inside this vast brotherhood there are, of course, the still closer brotherhoods of beings "of one blood." The monkeys, the bears, the wolves, the elephants and the rhinoceroses, most ruminants, the hares and most of the rodents, the crocodiles, and so on, perfectly know their own kin, and they will not tolerate any one of their relatives to be slaughtered by man without taking, in one way or another, honest revenge. This conception must have had an extremely remote origin.

Even now, when a savage is hunting, he is bound to respect certain rules of propriety toward the animals, and he must perform certain expiatory ceremonies after his hunt. Most of these ceremonies are rigorously enacted, even nowadays in the savage clans, especially as regards those species considered the allies of man.

It is well known that two men belonging to two different clans or tribes can become brothers by mixing the blood of the two, obtained from small incisions made for that purpose. But it was also quite habitual for man to enter into brotherhood with some animal. The tales continually mentioned it. An animal asks a hunter to spare it, and if the hunter accedes to the demand the two become brothers. And then the monkey, the bear, the doe, the bird, the crocodile, or the bee—any one of the sociable animals—will take all possible care of the man brother in the critical circumstances of his life, sending his or her animal brothers of different tribes to warn him or help him out of a difficulty. And if the warning comes too late, or is misunderstood, and he loses his life, they all will try to bring him back to life, and they fall they will take due revenge, just as if the man had been one of their own kin.

When I journeyed to Siberia I was often struck, without understanding it, with the care which my Tungus or Mongol guide would take not to uselessly kill any animal. The fact is that every life is respected by a savage, or rather it was before he came in contact with Europeans. If he kills an animal, it is for food or for clothing; but he does not destroy life, as the whites do, for the mere excitement of the slaughter.

Of course, there are rascals among the animals—the hyena, for instance, or the shrewmouse, or the man eating tiger; but these do not count; they are outlaws. As to the great animal world as a whole, savage children are taught to respect it and see in it an extension of their own kin.

Concerning Municipal Ownership

Mayor Carter H. Harrison of Chicago.



THE people at last are beginning to realize they have a vested property right in their streets and alleys, and that if the use of these streets and alleys is a valuable commodity to the corporations by the same token it is a valuable commodity to the public.

However, the public service corporation is still so firmly entrenched in the possession and control of every utility power possessing and controlling in American cities that the schemes for the rescue of the public is still in embryonic form.

Indeed, a certain vague idea of a sanctity of rights seems to pervade the atmosphere in the average community, and the plain citizen enters upon the discussion of the ownership by the community of its own utilities with bated breath and with almost an air of being caught in a felonious attempt to subvert a divinely established order of things. A similar sensation must have been experienced in the decade before the revolution by our forefathers when first the idea of throwing off the rule of England's sovereign was whispered with bated breath.

For generations in all our cities public utilities have been in the hands of a favored few, and great families have been established and great fortunes gathered at the expense of the ordinary citizen.

In all our cities the families of the owners of the gas plant, of the street railway company, of the electric lighting company, of the telephone company and of all the other public utility companies take precedence of ordinary folk by reason of the patent of nobility conferred along with the franchises of the concerns.

Abroad great deeds and a long line of distinguished ancestry characterized the claim to aristocracy. With us wealth forms the keystone upon which great houses are built, and this wealth, in many instances, at least, is first founded upon some grant or franchise by which the right to take the people for their personal benefit was transferred from the community to an individual or group of individuals.

SPINACH AND EGG SALAD.

Prepare and mould the spinach. Have ready, also, some cold boiled egg and mayonnaise. Turn the spinach from the moulds on to nests of shredded lettuce. Dispose, in chain fashion, around the base of the spinach, the whites of the eggs cut in rings, and press a star of mayonnaise in the centre of each ring. Pass the yolk through a sieve and sprinkle over the top of the moulds and place above this the round ends of the white.

To Banish Seasickness.

Bright red spectacles, accompanied by internal doses of calomel, form a new German specific against seasickness. It is deduced from Epstein's investigations on the influence of color on the blood-vessels in the brain. Seasickness is due to lack of blood in the brain, while red sends blood to the brain with a rush. By looking at one point for some time through the red glasses the patient is rapidly cured.

The greatest sickness of all time is disease of the heart.

PROTEST TO THE PRESIDENT

Delegation From the American Asiatic Association Presents a Memorial to the Chief Executive.

Washington, Special.—A delegation from the American Asiatic Association called on President Roosevelt Monday and protested against the alleged severities of the administration of the present Chinese exclusion laws. The ultimate purpose of the delegation in which North Carolina was liberally represented, was to secure such conditions as would facilitate and enlarge the trade of American cotton mills in the Orient. The claim was made that the present laws are altogether too rigidly enforced and Chinese capital and merchants are prevented from coming to America to trade.

A MEMORIAL PRESENTED.

A memorial, adopted unanimously by the entire delegation was presented to President Roosevelt by John Ford, of New York, secretary of the American Asiatic Association. The memorial recited not only that Chinese merchants were harassed by the present exclusion statutes, but the law was being even more than literally applied. The legal regulations are now so stringently construed by the Department that many influential Chinese who are entitled to visit America, are kept out of the country. The consequence is that factories in the United States are placed at a disadvantage in the competition for the trade of the Orient. The memorial admitted that there was warrant in the wording of the law for what is being done, but contended strongly that the enforcement of the present statutes was in the hands of the labor union element and was not executed in the interest of the American citizen. The memorial closed in the following words:

"The members of this delegation feel confident that they will not appeal to you in vain in asking that remedy should be sought for the anomalous and unsatisfactory condition of the existing relations between this country and the Chinese Empire. The probable disastrous effects on their interests and the interests of industries for which they speak, of a longer continuance of conditions must be their excuse for the urgency and emphasis which they have taken the liberty to use in inviting your attention to the subject."

THE PRESIDENT'S VIEWS.

President Roosevelt indicated that this was a matter which had to some extent, already engaged his thought. In fact, other cotton manufacturers who have recently visited the White House, have made a somewhat similar complaint to the Chief Executive. The President told the delegation today that as he understood the matter, he was in accord with their purpose, but he wanted it clearly known that he was opposed to the importation of coolie labor into this country. He was in favor, however, of allowing Chinese merchants to come to America for the purpose of trading, and that he believed that the proper legislation could safely discriminate between the classes of Chinese. This, though, was simply his personal view, for Congress was the proper power to deal with the matter in hand and the President's only duty was to see that the law as it stands is faithfully executed.

Big Financial Organization.

New York, Special.—The organization of the largest trust company in the United States, and one of the largest financial institutions of the world, was said to be a part of the plan of Thomas F. Ryan in negotiating the purchase of the stock of the Equitable Life Assurance Society held by Jas. H. Hyde, Mr. Ryan's plan was reported to be to consolidate the Equitable Trust Company, the Mercantile Trust Company and the Morton Trust Company, all of the city, with the last-named in control. It is expected that this would result in creating a financial institution with deposits second only to those of the National City Bank of this city, which has deposits of \$185,000,000. The deposits of the proposed consolidated trust company would amount to \$169,000,000, the capital stock to \$70,000,000 and the surplus to \$22,700,000. Mr. Ryan's plan was reported to contemplate also the elimination of the control of subsidiary companies by the Equitable Life Assurance Society.

Charges Not Sustained.

Washington, Special.—Secretary Wilson informed the President that he was pressing his investigation of the charges filed with him that a leak had occurred in the cotton crop reports issued by the Agricultural Department, but he yet had been unable to develop proof to sustain the charges. The agent of the secret service and others who are making the investigation, have been instructed by Secretary Wilson to leave no stone unturned in their inquiry.

Prominent Man Murdered.

Tampa, Fla., Special.—The body of Oscar Brahman, a prominent citizen of Plant City, was found on the road three miles from that town Tuesday morning, riddled with buck-shot. No less than six loads had been fired into the body. Investigation showed where at least three men had waited in ambush alongside the road. Sheriff Jackson at once sent deputies with bloodhounds to the scene and posers of excited citizens are scouring the country searching for the murderers. No clue has been found to the perpetrators, but the officers expect to locate them before they get far away.

Premier Stabbed.

Athens, By Cable.—Theodore P. Delanias, the popular Premier of Greece, was stabbed and mortally wounded by a professional gambler named Gerakaris, at the main entrance of the Chamber of Deputies at 5 p. m. Wednesday. The Premier died within three hours. The assassin, who committed the deed in revenge for the stringent measures taken by Premier Delanias against the gambling houses, all of which were recently closed.

New Industry at Rock Hill.

Rock Hill, S. C., Special.—A new industry in this place has just begun operations. The concern is known as the Acme Manufacturing Company, with C. W. Frew and Lee Diehl proprietors. It will turn out suspenders for the wholesale market and has been fitted with first-class factory apparatus. The machines put out two hundred dozen a day. The plant is run by electricity furnished by the Carolina Power Company. The proprietors will enlarge the business as soon as everything is running smoothly.

THOSE WHO WORE THE GRAY

Great Gathering of the Heroes of the "Lost Cause" in Louisville, Kentucky.

WERE TENDERED ROYAL RECEPTION

The Kentucky City Decorated to an Extent Never Before Known, is Prepared to Extend Hospitality to All the Old Soldiers Who Come.

Louisville, Ky., Special.—Louisville, decorated to an extent hitherto unknown and smiled on by typical summer weather, extended the hands of hospitality to a never-ending stream of arriving veterans who have come to Kentucky to attend the fifteenth annual reunion of the United Confederate Veterans. In every hotel and at almost every corner in the business section of the city the men wearing the gray are to be found.

Among the prominent ex-Confederates here now are General Stephen D. Lee, commander-in-chief; General Joe Wheeler, General Andrew J. West, of Atlanta, commanding the North Georgia Brigade, who came in at the head of a large delegation of Georgians; Lieutenant General C. Irvine Walker, of South Carolina; General Simon Bolivar Buckner, General William E. Mickle, of New Orleans, adjutant general and chief of staff; Chaplain General Wm. Jones, of Richmond, and General Clement A. Evans, of Atlanta, the chairman of the history committee and the Battle Abbey.

The Virginia and Maryland delegates came in, and some of the great army of Texans arrived during the afternoon. The Tennesseans began arriving in force Tuesday evening, followed closely by a detachment of the Arkansas regiments. Much regret has been expressed over the receipt of a letter from Judge Emory Speer, of Macon, Ga., announcing his inability to be present. It had been expected that Judge Speer would address the orphan brigade, of which he is a member.

Gen. W. E. Mickle, adjutant general and chief of staff, has completed his annual report, which is highly interesting. It says: "It is a source of sincere pleasure to me that I am able to report that the debt which has been resting on the federation for a number of years has been paid in full. That this matter has been liquidated is due to the extraordinary efforts put forth by you, and while the urgent appeal made by you to the wealthiest members of our order was sent to nearly three hundred people and should have had most generous responses, the amount realized was barely sufficient to wipe out the debt. This lukewarmness on the part of those who were in a position to render most liberally is a sad commentary on the degeneracy of the times, and displays a deplorable lack of interest by men who were once so ready to share the dangers and deprivations that rendered the Confederate armies famous throughout the world."

"There has been carried on the roster of the order for a number of years many camps who had made no payment of any kind since they were chartered; some of these were really never in existence, having died a-borning." After conferring with the adjutant general of the various divisions, these camps have been put on the "dormant list," and no mail matter will, for the present, be sent them. This means an annual saving to the order. There are still on the roster a number of camps who do not contribute to the finances of the order, makes return of any kind, or manifest the least interest in the federation. As soon as definite information can be secured regarding them they will be added to the "dormant list."

"I am proud to be able to report that at no period in the history of the federation have the camps paid their dues with more promptness or in such large numbers as at the present time."

Big Consolidation.

Memphis, Special.—Announcement was made that a consolidation of the Memphis Trust Company and the National Bank of Commerce, of this city, has been decided on, the merger to take effect on July 15. Both concerns are well known and influential. The capital stock of the combined institution is said to be \$2,000,000. John T. Fargason, a prominent local merchant and capitalist, will be president.

Chairman Morton Waits.

New York, Special.—The executive committee of the Equitable Life Assurance Society met Wednesday, with Vice President Hyde presiding, and elected Chairman Paul Morton a member of the committee. There were no further resignations from the board, nor were the resignations of officers and directors already tendered acted upon. Chairman Morton said that he would not outline his policy until he had received the report of Superintendent Hendricks. On the report was to depend largely the organization of the society, of the directory and of its executive and finance committees.

Knights of Honor in Session.

Atlanta, Ga., Special.—With more than 80 delegates in attendance, there being more than one delegate for each State in the Union, the bi-annual convention of the Knights of Honor was called to order here. Delegate Hudson, of Texas, offered a resolution providing for the admission of women into the order. This was referred to the committee on the good of the order. The convention will be in session several days.

Move by Greene and Gaynor.

Montreal, Special.—T. Chase Casgrain, counsel for John F. Gaynor and B. D. Greene, has petitioned Judge Hall in the chambers to be allowed to furnish security for their appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada from the decision of King's Bench maintaining the judgment of Judge Davidson, who declared that extradition Commissioner LaFontaine, had jurisdiction in the present case and who rejected the writ of prohibition taken against the commissioner by counsel for the accused.

Mexican Railroad to be Extended.

Mexico City, Special.—President Robins, of the Mexican Central railroad, says that work will soon be begun on the extension of the Central's line to the Pacific coast via Culiacan. Work was stopped on this extension two years ago owing to the depreciation of silver, which caused railway earnings to fall off. The Central's Pacific port will be Manzanillo, where the government is spending millions of dollars to improve the harbor there.

CLOSE OF THE REUNION

Without Much Pretense of Formation So Far as the Veterans Were Concerned, the Parade was None the Less a Stirring Spectacle, Battle Flags Recently Restored by the Government Playing a Part.

Louisville, Ky., Special.—Beneath the shot-riddled battle flags that float over many a sodden field, and to the thrilling strains of "Dixie" that oiled had cheered them on to victory or defeat, the Confederate veterans who wore the gray marched Friday in proud review before thousands of people gathered in Kentucky's chief city to do them honor.

There was not much in the way of formation and order in the line as far as the old boys were concerned, but they marched with sparkling eyes to the old times, and heard the same cheers that have stirred their blood annually since the reunions became a part of life in the South. Many of the captured battle flags, recently returned by the government, were carried in Friday's parade and were the objects of interest and veneration.

Three Overcome by Heat.

The temperature was near the 86 mark, and John Coke, of Lawrenceburg, Ky., J. B. Allen, of Virginia and William Potter, aged 62 of Nashville, Tenn., were overcome and taken to hospitals.

The parade which formed at First and Main streets, was in three grand divisions, comprising the Trans-Mississippi department, the department of the Army of Northern Virginia and the department of the Army of Tennessee. Col. Bennett H. Young, commander of the Kentucky division, was chief marshal, and the following were in command of the three divisions: Gen. W. L. Cabell, Texas, the Trans-Mississippi department; Gen. C. Irving Walker, South Carolina, the department of Northern Virginia; Gen. Clement A. Evans, the Army of Tennessee.

Head of the Column.

At the head of the column, as special guests of the reunion, rode Gen. Joe Wheeler, in citizen's dress, and Jefferson Hayes Davis, grandson of the President of the Confederacy. They were escorted by Wheeler's cavalry. Next came the commander-in-chief, General Stephen D. Lee, and staff. The distinguished leader was cheered at every turn. The commander's immediate escort was the Columbus Rifles, from the General's home city, Columbus, Miss., and then followed carriage containing Miss Carrie Peyton Wheeler, sponsor for the South and her maid, Mrs. Walker of South Carolina occupied his familiar place as head of the department of the Army of Northern Virginia. The West Virginia division, headed by the department with General S. S. Green in command. The R. E. Lee camp of Richmond had the place of honor in the Virginia division. The marching of this camp was splendid and the men were cheered heartily. The name of the Tom Camp of Suffolk, Va., and Stonewall Jackson's old brigade with several tattered flags. These old men and their flags aroused the crowds to much enthusiasm. The William Watts Camp, of Roanoke, brought up the rear of the Virginians.

Text of Japan's Reply.

Washington, Special.—The following is the text of the Japanese reply to President Roosevelt's identical note to Japan and Russia on the subject of negotiations for peace: "The imperial government has given to the suggestions of the President of the United States, embodied in the note handed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs by the United States minister on the 9th inst., very serious consideration, to which, because of its source and import, it is justly entitled. Desiring, in the interest of Japan, as well as in the interest of Japan, the re-establishment of peace with Russia on terms and conditions that will fully guarantee its stability, the imperial government will, in response to the suggestions of the President, appoint plenipotentiaries of Japan to meet plenipotentiaries of Russia at such time and place as may be found to be mutually agreeable and convenient for the purpose of negotiating and concluding terms of peace directly and exclusively between the two belligerent powers."

Booker Washington Sees President.

Washington, Special.—Booker T. Washington, president of Tuskegee Institute at Tuskegee, Ala., called on the president to talk with him about his visit to Tuskegee next October. The president expects to pass the greater part of October 23 at Tuskegee, and arrangements already are making for a demonstration by the students of the institute in his honor. The president will review a procession and deliver an address. Prof. Washington tonight delivered an address at the graduation exercises of the colored high school, the colored normal school and the Armstrong Training school.

May be Another Great Advance.

London, By Cable.—The practical certainty now that peace negotiations cannot begin for another month leads to the conviction that another great battle will be fought in the interval. According to the Daily Telegraph's Tien Tsin correspondent a Japanese forward movement has already commenced in spite of the rainy season.

Cloth Sales Slow.

Fall River, Mass., Special.—The sales in print cloth market for the week are estimated at 225,000 pieces. A much firmer tone has prevailed in the cloth market during the week. Buyers are active holders at present prices, but manufacturers continue to be slow sellers. The cause of the firmness on the part of the seller is the high prices asked for the raw material and also the strong belief that cotton may be marked up in the near future.

3 Killed; 29 Injured.

Albion, Ill., Special.—Three persons were killed and 29 injured in the wreck of an east-bound passenger train on the Southern railway at Golden Gate, Ill. The train was a "cotton special," carrying Confederate veterans to the reunion at Louisville, Ky. While running at a speed of 50 miles an hour the engine struck a spread rail on a trestle twenty feet high and the engine and four coaches were thrown and fell to the bottom of the ravine. The engine completely turned over.

95 Dead in Wreck.

Baltimore, Special.—By far the worst wreck in the history of the Western Maryland railroad occurred Saturday evening at a point a quarter of a mile from Potomac, a small station between Westminster and Finksburg. At least 25 people are believed to have been killed and a score or more injured. The wreck was occasioned by a head on collision with a freight double-header that was running against orders.

Caterpillars Kill Cotton.

Houston, Texas, Special.—Throughout the eastern and southern sections of Texas there is a pest of caterpillars, and reports indicate they are doing great damage to fruit trees, cotton, corn and truck gardens. State Entomologist Conrad says that while the insects are usually controlled by natural enemies, all specimens examined by him this year are free from the usual parasites.

WASHINGTON CHOSE

Agreeable to All Parties As Place of Holding Peace Meeting

CZAR WITHDRAWS ALL OBJECTION

Envy and Jealousy of the United States Are so Unconcealed in Some Quarters That There Was Almost Open Exultation at the "Rebuff" to Roosevelt by the Foreign Office Prior to the Czar's Intervention.

St. Petersburg, By Cable.—Russia has finally and definitely accepted Washington as the meeting place of the Russian and Japanese plenipotentiaries, the foreign office having waived its request for reconsideration at the personal discretion of the Emperor, whose desire to give the fullest and fairest opportunity to President Roosevelt's proposal for a peace conference is hereby manifested.

After his conference with Ambassador Meyer, Count Lamsdorff, the foreign minister went to Peterhof and laid the matter before the Emperor, who, on learning that insistence of The Hague might endanger the negotiations, directed Count Lamsdorff to inform Ambassador Meyer that Russia would accept Washington.

It was after midnight when the foreign minister returned from Peterhof, but Ambassador Meyer was forthwith notified and a cipher dispatch was prepared and sent to the state department at an early hour Monday morning.

Count Lamsdorff Sunday afternoon issued a public announcement of the selection of Washington. The result is looked upon as a decided triumph for American diplomacy.

150 Natives Massacred.

San Francisco, Special.—Details of a terrible massacre by pirates of 150 natives on the Siberian coast has been received in a letter from Petropavlovsk, on the coast of Kamchatka. A Morogranov, has written to his brother, a resident of San Francisco, that in the early part of the year, the natives in one of the small settlements down the coast, observed a yacht, a schooner, drop anchor in the harbor, and its coming was hailed with cries of rejoicing. Off the vessel came a number of small boats. The natives could see the crew piling what they thought were supplies into the smaller craft. Then the men pulled for the shore. During that and the next day there was heard firing of arms, and later, smoke and fire were observed. This led to an investigation from Petropavlovsk and other towns on the coast, and a horrible tale of pillage and massacre was brought to light.

About the streets of the settlement writes Morogranov, were strewn the bodies of 150 of the inhabitants, shot and cut to pieces by the pirates, who, under the pretense of friendship, had gained a landing on the coast. Every body was their motive, and anything of marketable value had been taken. Who the marauders were, those who managed to make their escape could not say, beyond giving the information that some Japanese were in the party. When Morogranov sent his letter the people of Petropavlovsk feared an attack on that town.

Maximo Gomez Dead.

Havana, Special.—Gen. Maximo Gomez died at 6 o'clock Saturday evening.

General Maximo Gomez, who commanded the Cuban forces during the insurrection, which broke out in 1895, and ended with the complete independence of the island, when on May 20, 1902, the control of Cuba was formally transferred to the new Cuban government, was born at Bani, Santo Domingo, in 1836, and came of a Spanish family. He began life as a cavalry officer in the Spanish army in Santo Domingo and served in the last occupation of Santo Domingo by Spain.

Going for Paul Jones' Body.

New York, Special.—Rear Admiral Sigsbee's squadron, which was detached from the North Atlantic fleet to bring the body of John Paul Jones, the first admiral of the American navy, to this country, started on its voyage to France Sunday. The squadron is made up of the flagship Brooklyn and the cruisers Chattanooga, Tacoma and Geary.

Collision Sinks Vessel.

Sault Ste Marie, Mich., Special.—During a thick fog which has prevailed on the upper lakes for a week, the steel freight steamers Etruria and Amazona collided ten miles off Presque Isle light, in Lake Huron. The Etruria was so damaged that she sank in a few minutes, the crew narrowly escaping with their lives. The Etruria was struck on the starboard side, abreast of the No. 9 hatch. Many of the crew were asleep in their berths, but were awakened by the crash and reached the deck in time to escape. The Etruria had a cargo of soft coal. She was valued at \$240,000. The Amazona escaped any serious damage.

95 Dead in Wreck.

Baltimore, Special.—By far the worst wreck in the history of the Western Maryland railroad occurred Saturday evening at a point a quarter of a mile from Potomac, a small station between Westminster and Finksburg. At least 25 people are believed to have been killed and a score or more injured. The wreck was occasioned by a head on collision with a freight double-header that was running against orders.

Caterpillars Kill Cotton.

Houston, Texas, Special.—Throughout the eastern and southern sections of Texas there is a pest of caterpillars, and reports indicate they are doing great damage to fruit trees, cotton, corn and truck gardens. State Entomologist Conrad says that while the insects are usually controlled by natural enemies, all specimens examined by him this year are free from the usual parasites.